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TO AMEMBASSY BEIJING
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E.O. 12865: N/A

TAGS: PDIP CCM OTRA CM US

SUBJECT: RI CONSULAR AND DIPLOMATIC TRAVEL

REF: A) BEIJING 8076, B) BEIJING 8041, C) BEIJING 7601,
D) STATE 272733

1. RI EMBASSY PLEASE PASS TO CONGEN GUANGZHOU.
2. 0001 ON NOVEMBER 29, DEPARTMENT DELIVERED A DIPLOMATIC
NOTE TO PRC EMBASSY REGARDING RESTRICTIONS ON DIPLOMATIC
AND CONSULAR TRAVEL. AS THE NOTE (REPEATED IN FOLLOWING
PARAGRAPHS) STATED, OUR DECISION TO IMPOSE RESTRICTIONS ON
PRC DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR TRAVEL IN THE US WAS MOTIVATED
EXCLUSIVELY BY OUR DESIRE TO OBSERVE THE PRINCIPLE OF
RECIPROCITY, A PRINCIPLE WHOSE IMPORTANCE HAS INCREASED
WITH NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS. POSTS WILL NOTE THAT WE
HAVE FOR THE TIME BEING NOT ADDRESSED THE QUESTION OF
CLOSED AREAS, SINCE THE PRC'S DEFINITION SEEMS TO BE
AMBIGUOUS. HOWEVER, WE PLAN TO RAISE THIS ISSUE WITH THE
CHINESE, POSSIBLY IN THE CONTEXT OF NEGOTIATIONS OF THE
BILATERAL CONVENTION.

3. REMAINDER OF MESSAGE UNCLASSIFIED.

BEGIN TEXT OF DIPLOMATIC NOTE:

4. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WISHES TO INFORM THE EMBASSY
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH
PROCEDURES ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA FOR TRAVEL BY AMERICAN PERSONNEL AS-
SIGNED TO THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN BEIJING AND THE
UNITED STATES CONSULATE GENERAL IN GUANGZHOU, THE FOLLOW-
ING PROCEDURES WILL BE REQUIRED OF ALL CHINESE PERSONNEL--
INCLUDING STAFF AND DEPENDENTS--ASSIGNED TO THE EMBASSY
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN WASHINGTON, D.C.,
AND THE CONSULATES GENERAL IN HOUSTON AND SAN FRANCISCO
FOR TRAVEL WITHIN UNITED STATES TERRITORY, WHETHER SUCH
TRAVEL BE FOR OFFICIAL OR PRIVATE PURPOSES, AS OF
JANUARY 5, 1979:

A. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE MUST BE INFORMED BY
WRITTEN NOTE FORTY-EIGHT (48) HOURS, EIGHT HOURS OF
WHICH MUST CORRESPOND TO ONE WORKING DAY, IN ADVANCE
OF, AND MUST SPECIFICALLY APPROVE, ANY TRAVEL BEYOND A
TWENTY-FIVE (25) MILE (40 KILOMETER) RADIUS OF THE

EMBASSY, EXCEPT THAT DIRECT TRAVEL WITHIN THE EMBASSY
AND THE EMBASSY-WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WILL
REQUIRE NO PRIOR NOTIFICATION. IN THE CASE OF PERSONNEL
ACCREDITED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, NOTIFICATION
SHOULD BE MADE TO THE APPROPRIATE OFFICE RESPONSIBLE
FOR LIAISON FUNCTIONS.

B. UNITED STATES PASSPORT AGENCIES LOCATED IN THE
CITIES OF HOUSTON AND SAN FRANCISCO MUST BE INFORMED
BY WRITTEN COMMUNICATION FORTY-EIGHT (48) HOURS, EIGHT
HOURS OF WHICH MUST CORRESPOND TO ONE WORKING DAY, IN
ADVANCE OF, AND MUST SPECIFICALLY APPROVE, ANY TRAVEL
BEYOND A TWENTY-FIVE (25) MILE (40 KILOMETER) RADIUS OF
THE CONSULATE GENERAL IN HOUSTON AND SAN FRANCISCO,
RESPECTIVELY.

C. IN THE EVENT OF EMERGENCY TRAVEL, NOTIFICATION
IN THE CASE OF THE EMBASSY MAY BE MADE BY TELEPHONE TO
THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE OR, IN THE CASES OF THE CON-
SULATES GENERAL, BY TELEPHONE TO THE UNITED STATES
PASSPORT AGENCIES IN THE CITIES OF HOUSTON AND SAN
FRANCISCO, RESPECTIVELY. IN THE CASE OF PERSONNEL
ACCREDITED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, NOTIFICATION
SHOULD BE MADE TO THE APPROPRIATE OFFICE RESPONSIBLE

FOR LIAISON FUNCTIONS. ALL EMERGENCY TELEPHONE REQUESTS
MUST BE FOLLOWED WITH A WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE APPROVING
OFFICE ON THE NEXT WORKING DAY.

5. THESE PROCEDURES ARE BEING INSTITUTED NOT FOR THE
PURPOSE OF INHIBITING OR RESTRICTING THE TRAVEL OF
EMBASSY AND CONSULATE GENERAL PERSONNEL, BUT TO BRING
UNITED STATES TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS INTO LINE WITH THOSE
BEING APPLIED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF CHINA TO TRAVEL BY PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO THE UNITED
STATES EMBASSY AND CONSULATE GENERAL. THE DEPARTMENT OF
STATE BELIEVES THAT WITH THE ADVENT OF NORMAL DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS, THE PREVIOUS AD HOC ARRANGEMENTS WHICH APPLIED
TO TRAVEL IN THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BE REPLACED BY
REGULAR PROCEDURES WHICH APPLY UNIFORMLY TO ALL MISSIONS
IN THE UNITED STATES ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY. THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE WISHES TO EMPHASIZE THAT IN PRINCIPLE
THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FAVORS A POLICY OF UNRE-
STRICTED TRAVEL AND CONTACT BY FOREIGN DIPLOMATS AND
VISITORS AND WOULD WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW
ALL TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS FOR EMBASSY AND CONSULATE
GENERAL PERSONNEL IN BOTH COUNTRIES, WITH A VIEW
TOWARD EASING THESE REQUIREMENTS ON A RECIPROCAL BASIS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 29, 1978

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